

Message Text

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17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-11 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20

USIA-15 OMB-01 IO-14 ACDA-19 DRC-01 /125 W

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P R 190925Z JUL 74

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 4944

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRN MILI PFOR KS KN

SUBJECT: KAL AIRCRAFT CROSSES CIVILAIN CONTROL LINE

1. UNC REPORTS THAT KAL FLIGHT 006 EVENING JULY 18
CROSSED CIVILAIN AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL LINE WHILE FLYING
NORTH OF SEOUL AND WAS FIRED UPON BY NORTH KOREAN AA.
NO DAMAGE TO AIRCRAFT OR INJURIES TO PASSENGERS.

2. AIRCRAFT TOOK OFF FROM SEOUL'S KIMPO AIRPORT
BOUND FOR LOS ANGELES BUT TURNED BACK BECAUSE OF
OIL PRESSURE PROBLEMS. PILOT OVERSHOT KIMPO AND CROSSED
CIVILAIN CONTROL LINE WHICH IS LINE DESIGNED TO KEEP
CIVILAIN AIRCRAFT WELL SOUTH OF DMZ. I CORPS TACTICAL
OPERATIONS CENTER REPORTED OBSERVATION POST IN SECOND
ROK MARINE BRIGADE AREA (OP 752 AT BS 883807) FIRED
ONE ROUND "WARNING SHOT;" AIRCRAFT TURNED LEFT AND
REPORTEDLY DID NOT CROSS HAN RIVER ESTUARY, WHICH
CONSTITUTES DMZ IN THIS AREA. I CORPS REPORTS THAT
NORTH KOREAN AA THEN FIRED ESTIMATED 30 ROUNDS AND
AIRCRAFT FLEW SOUTH BACK TO KIMPO.

3. PRESS JULY 19 PROMINENTLY CARRIED STATEMENT BY
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DEFENSE MINISTRY SPOKESMAN THAT NORTH KOREAN ANTI-

AIRCRAFT HAD FIRED AT PLANE WHICH WAS RETURNING TO KIMPO. MND SAID AIRCRAFT WAS ONE KILOMETER SOUTH OF HAN RIVER AND AT ALT. 3,500 FEET WHEN FIRED UPON. SPOKESMAN LINKED INCIDENT WITH JUNE 28 SINKING OF KNP POLICE PATROL CRAFT AND STATED THAT BY ATTACKING UNARMED CIVIL AIRCRAFT IN ROK AIR SPACE, THE NORTH HAD COMMITTED ANOTHER PROVOCATION WHICH HAD INCREASED TENSION.

4. UNC HAS BEEN UNABLE VERIFY EXACT POSITION OF CIVILIAN AIRCRAFT WHEN REPORTEDLY FIRED UPON. ROKG RADAR TRACK PROVIDED TO UNC INDICATES NORTHERNMOST PENETRATION WAS POINT ABOUT ONE MILE (NO CLOSER THAN ONE KILOMETER) SOUTH OF SOUTHERN EDGE HAN RIVER ESTUARY. PILOT REPORTS THAT HE WAS CALLED BACK BY RADAR CONTROL, STARTING HIS TURN THREE NAUTICAL MILES SOUTH OF CONTROL LINE, AND DID NOT SEE EITHER AA FIRE OR WARNING SHOT.

5. SINCE EXACT TRACK OF AIRCRAFT OR VERIFICATION IMPACT OF GROUND FIRE UNCERTAIN WE DO NOT PLAN TO TAKE INCIDENT UP IN MAC. UNC/MAC WILL BE PREPARED HOWEVER, TO RESPOND TO ANY NORTH KOREAN CHARGE OF VIOLATION OF ITS AIR SPACE.
HABIB

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Message Attributes

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